

REMARKS

Claim Amendments

Claims 2 and 13-43 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claim 1 and 45 have been amended near the end of the fourth line to insert a space between "water;" and "and". These amendments correct typographical errors.

Claims 1, 44, and 45 have been amended to delete "cationic starches" and "water soluble polymers" from the second component.

Claims 1, 44, and 45 have also been amended to recite within the second component Markush group the particular water-soluble polymers, "water-soluble anionic vinyl addition polymers, water-soluble neutral polymers, water-soluble condensation polymers". Support for these amendments can be found in claim 12 as filed.

Independent claims 1, 44, and 45 have been amended to include a Markush group for the surfactant component. Support for these amendments can be found in claim 2 as filed.

Claim 12 has been amended for consistency with amended claim 1.

Restriction Response

Applicants have been required to elect a single invention from among the following Groups:

Group I, claims 1-12, 44, and 45, drawn to an aqueous sizing composition;

Group II, claims 13-19, drawn to a fibrous substrate treated with a sizing composition;

Group III, claims 20-30, drawn to a process for making a sizing composition; and

Group IV, claims 31-43, drawn to a process for sizing a paper product.

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(KEX-0017)

In response to this restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect without traverse to prosecute Group I, claims 1-12, 44, and 45, drawn to an aqueous sizing composition.

Nonelected claims have been canceled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications directed to the inventions of the nonelected and presently canceled claims.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicants' Attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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